

THE SOUTHWICK/SUFFIELD

ADVERTISER/NEWS

FREE

P.O. Box 263
FEEDING HILLS, MA 01030

(413) 786-7747

Volume I Number 16

"Good News Surrounds Us"

December 23, 1981

Season's Greetings From Our Staff



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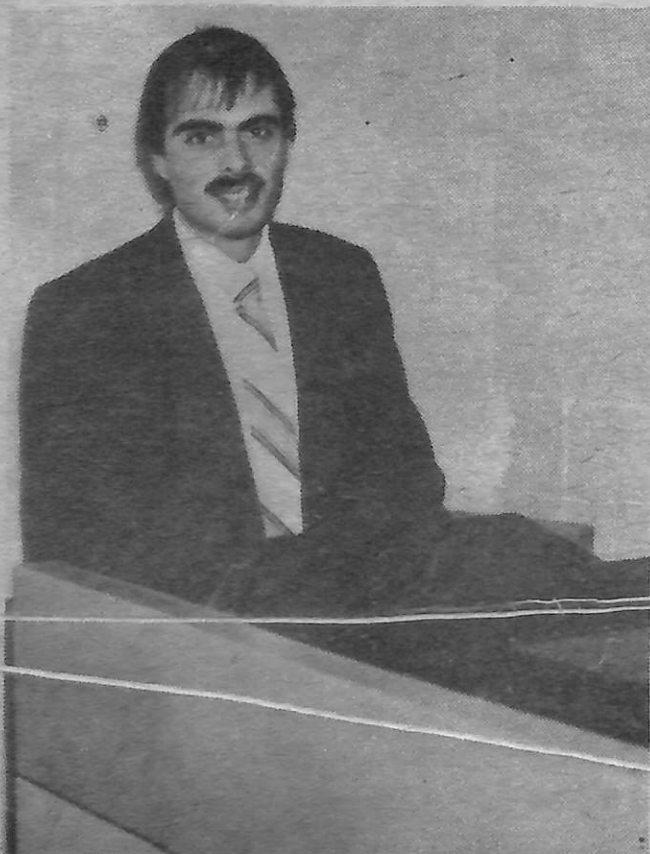
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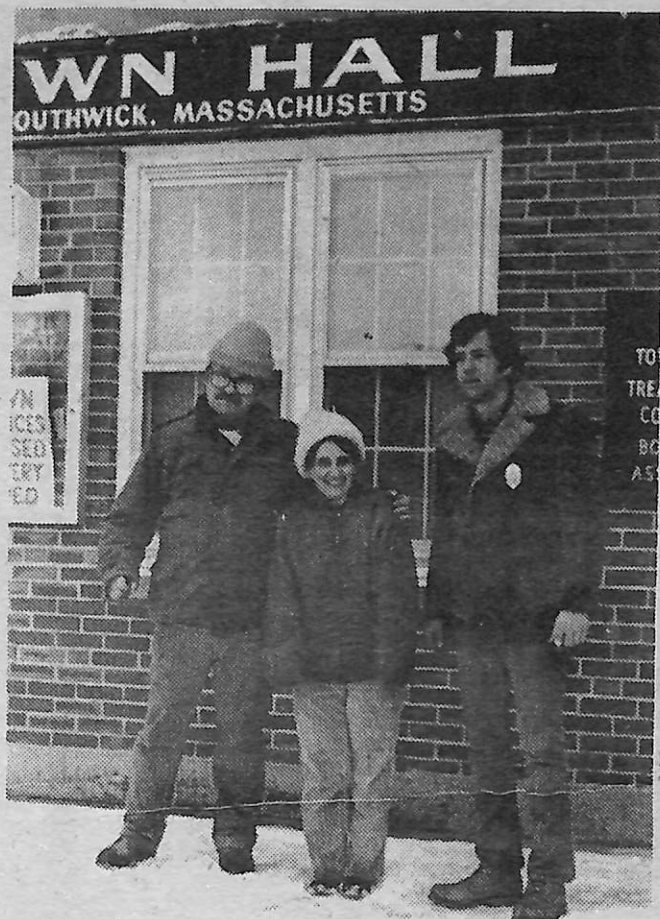
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SOUTHWICK'S 3 AUTHORIZED DOG OFFICERS caution residents who own dogs that violations of dog ordinances will result in fines. Shivering in front of Town Hall are officers Gene Steward, Virginia Steward and Daniel Rzonca. Advertiser/News photo by Jim Nelson.

Dog Ordinances To Be Enforced In Southwick

By Andi Phelps

Southwick: Residents in violation of "dog" ordinances will now be issued tickets by local dog officers. The citations, similar to those given for traffic offenses, will carry \$10, \$20, and \$30 fines payable to the district court.

The dog officers hope that complaints and violations decrease with more stringent enforcement, especially among habitual offenders. Once a ticket is issued, it becomes a matter for the court to handle. Persons can either pay the fine or contest the action in court.

Selectmen issued the citation books Wednesday to dog officers Gene Steward, Virginia Steward, and Daniel Rzonca. All three individuals carry badges and warrants signed by the selectmen identifying them as the legal enforcing body for dealing with dog violations.

While warning residents to keep their pets under control, the dog officers also caution dog owners about allowing unauthorized people to pick up animals. Dog officers are permitted to pick up animals in violation of local ordinances and will produce their identification upon request.

Get Well Wishes

Southwick: Get well wishes are extended to Phil Hall of the School Committee, who suffered a heart attack last week. Phil is improving and has been released from the hospital to recuperate at home.

Due to his illness, the meeting scheduled for Friday, December 18th of the School Budget Advisory Committee did not take place. They will meet on January 8th.

Cable TV License Sought By Suffield

By Connie Davis

With the cable TV issue now before town officials, First Selectman Earl Waterman reflected on questions and comments that had been submitted to him during his four years in office.

After townspeople approached him on the subject, he discovered that Massachusetts has pay TV to the state line, and he thought perhaps those lines might be extended. The controlling agency, Connecticut Public Utilities Control Authority (PUCA), informed him to the contrary.

Following a suggestion from Administrative Assistant Ron Birmingham that an advisory group be formed to gather information, towns of smaller populations, including Somers, Enfield, Suffield, Windsor Locks, and East Windsor, were grouped by PUCA into a franchise area.

Last November 17th, State Senator Conn O'Leary suggested assessments be conducted on the needs of each town. Eugene Biggio, director of Kent Memorial Library, volunteered his services on Suffield advisory committee, and other members are Normalynn McAndrew representing town government, Richard Roy, school representative, and Dennis Klaus, local citizen.

A major concern of the group is to make sure the company selected will provide a fair number of access channels as part of the agreement. Advisory committees from towns within the north central Connecticut cable TV area filed formal bids from three companies on December 14th: Greater Northern Cablevision, Inc.; Tribune Company Cable of Connecticut; and Continental Cablevision of Connecticut, Inc.

Biggio reported a meeting on January 6th will consider Area II needs. Between the time that competitive bids are submitted and the hearing occurs, bids may be amended based on feedback from advisory groups.

Biggio emphasized the importance of public access channels saying, "There are things on the horizon, and we would want public access to be there." He envisions people voting at town meetings via cable as well as burglary protection being provided with cable hooked up to an alarm system that would alert police should an outsider press on a window.

Asnuntuck Community College may offer community education via cable in the future, and CPR instruction could be offered by Suffield's Emergency Aid or exercise classes from the recreation department could be held via cable.

Biggio is seeking input from community organizations concerning the uses they might have for cable TV in their activities. He may be contacted at Kent Memorial Library.

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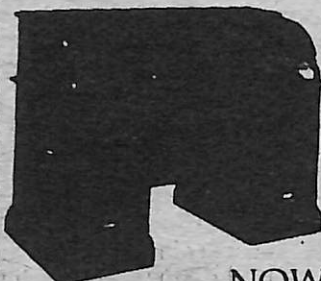
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Townfolk



CHRISTINE COLEMAN & CAROL BUCKELEW of Suffield's Jaycee Wives help their committee deliver holiday fruit baskets to "shut-in" residents. Advertiser/News photo by Jim Nelson.

Suffield JC Wives Sponsor Many Successful Projects

The Suffield Jaycee Wives have reported a huge success of its first major fundraising project of the year, the Octoberfest Craftsair. They credit its success to the members who participated and to residents who supported the entire Octoberfest.

Another of the group's projects is providing holiday fruit baskets to the elderly shut-in residents of town. They also fund the RSVP Knit-a-Care program, Suffield High School's Drama Club, a senior citizens' dinner, and Hats & Mittens for the underprivileged.

The next meeting of the Jaycee Wives will be on Monday, January 11th, at the home of Chris Coleman, Ridgewood Drive. All women between the ages of 18 and 40 are cordially invited to attend.

Kent Library Slates Winter Story Hours

Kent Memorial Library will hold its winter preschool story hours from January 6th through February 10th.

Times of the story hours are 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. for children ages three through five, and 11 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. for children who are 2½.

To pre-register, call the library at 668-2325.

B.O.S.S. Sponsors New Year's Eve Party

Southwick: You are invited to celebrate New Year's Eve at the American Legion Post 338 with a roast beef dinner at 7:30 and an open bar from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Dancing will be to the Dan Cavanaugh Trio.

Tickets are \$20 per person purchased in advance at the Legion, from any B.O.S.S. (Boost Our Southwick Schools) member, or by calling Barb or Les Carpenter at 569-5034. All proceeds will go toward enhancing Southwick's school activities.

New Year's Eve Dance Set For Our Lady Of The Lake

Southwick: You are invited to dance the new year in at Our Lady of the Lake Hall, Sheep Pasture Road. A smorgasbord by "Durochers" will be served at 8 p.m. with dancing to "We Three" from 9 to 2 a.m.

Noisemakers and hats will be provided, and the event is B.Y.O.B. with soda and ice available. Doughnuts and coffee will be served after midnight.

Tickets are \$26 per couple with a deadline for reservations set for Saturday, December 26th. Call 569-3213 to reserve your place.

Fitness Program Class Cancelled

Cyndy Duade's Fitness Program class scheduled for December 29th will be cancelled due to school vacation. Classes will resume on a weekly basis beginning January 5th at 7 p.m.

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Suffield Calendar Of Events
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Thurs., Dec. 24: Library closed.
Fri., Dec. 25: Library & Town Hall closed
Sat., Dec. 26: Library open 9 to 5 o'clock
Sun., Dec. 27: Library open 1-4:30 p.m.
Mon., Dec. 28: Fire drill, 7 p.m., Central Firehouse; Commission Heads, 7:30, Town Hall; Prayer Meeting, 8 p.m., Sacred Heart Hall
Tues., Dec. 29: Rotary, 6 p.m. Suffield Inn; Free Blood Pressure Screening Clinic, 4-6 p.m., Emergency Aid Assn. Bldg., 450 South St. Boy Scout Troop 260, 7 p.m., St. Joseph's Hall; Zoning Board of Appeals, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall.

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Senior Events

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Jan. 9th Energy Workshop Our Lady Of Lake Church Hall 10 a.m. For Transportation Call 569-5264	Dec. 28th Social - 50 Songs Maple Court 1 p.m.
Hot Lunch Every Day (Except Christmas)	Dec. 29th Bowling
Cards Played Every Day	Dec. 30th StageWest (Soup Kitchen Cancelled) 11:30-4:00
	Dec. 30th Senior Citizens Film 2nd Congo Church 10 a.m.

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The Library Link

By Eugene Biggio

Almost every library user has had an experience with interlibrary loan: good, bad, mediocre, or a mixture of the above. It's a service that can be very satisfying or very maddening depending on a combination of factors not excluding Lady Luck, so here's an explanation of what happens after the reference librarian has dutifully written down the information you need.

The library sends a typed copy of the request to one of two places: the Connecticut State Library Interlibrary Loan Center or the Capital Region Library Council Shuttle Service. Where it goes depends on the request.

Forms going to the state are those for subjects, titles which may be esoteric, materials which are out of state and photocopies. Those going to the shuttle are usually items likely to be found in public libraries.

The shuttle service is much faster (2-3 weeks) and able to find a higher rate of "hits." It's a manual search system consisting of one person traveling weekly to each member library, delivering the materials that have been asked for, and then attempting to locate ILL requests from other libraries in the collection.

The state service consists of three interlibrary loan centers with varying responsibilities. Each has a large collection of materials in-house as well as access to bibliographic information on the collections of large libraries nationally through an automated database. State deliveries are twice a week.

The shuttle service also reports within 2-3 weeks on the availability of a title. Frequently, a title not found by the shuttle is then routed to the state service. The state will report as well, but again, there is a longer period involved, usually four weeks.

The state will reserve an item for you if it is out, but

there have been instances of reserved materials never being returned with the pending ILL being consigned to what may be called "Extended Limbo." The KLM regularly reviews pending ILL's to prevent too long a delay.

With computerization of the KLM and other libraries in the area looming, the ILL system should become much more efficient. It will virtually make immediate what is now a slow process: locating materials.

Despite the current limitations of the manual system, ILL is a service that more users should take advantage of. The shuttle can supply over 80% of the titles submitted and the Connecticut State Library has obtained books for patrons from across the country. We can make inquiries at special libraries for you as well.

There are a few things that library users can do to "grease the wheels" a bit. One is to be aware of the time frame. Generally, an ILL cannot be supplied under two weeks in the current system, though we can track an increasing number of titles via the computer system data base which is not yet complete.

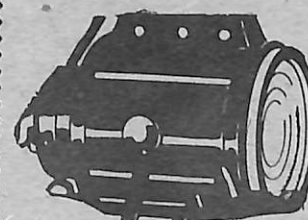
Another thing that helps is to have the source of the title in addition to the author and title. If you have publisher and date, that is a plus.

It is always wise to place a request in only one Connecticut library as most libraries belong to the shuttle system and duplicate ILL's can cause a delay. It's also a good idea to let the reference librarian know if there is a deadline.

Finally, when returning materials borrowed via interlibrary loan, please return them to the library where you received them. The paperwork necessitated by ILL must be cleared otherwise a needless overdue will be sent.

Interlibrary Loan, much used now, will become more so in the future. The declining aid to library service at the state and federal levels will force more resource sharing among libraries. With technology advancing by leaps and bounds, it's not too difficult to envision something like a request for the original copy of Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," resulting in a facsimile edition being transmitted in a flash through a high-speed printer.

Before my dreaming gets out of hand, let me wish you a most peaceful and pleasant holiday.



SPOTLIGHT ON SENIORS

Southwick Senior Center Menus

Mon., Dec. 28: Baked meat lasagna, wax beans, orange juice, wheat bread & marg., sliced peaches, milk

Tues., Dec. 29: Beef pie, vegetable soup, cucumber salad, rye bread & marg., vanilla pudding, milk

Wed., Dec. 30: Chicken cacciatore, Spanish rice, green beans, roll, apple, milk

Thurs., Dec. 31: Baked fish squares, buttered noodles, stewed tomatoes, wheat bread & marg., canned pears, milk

Fri., Jan. 1: New Year's Day

Mon., Jan. 4: Baked meatloaf, whipped potato, harvard beets, rye bread & marg., oatmeal cookies, milk

Tues., Jan. 5: Turkey oriental, Chinese noodles, steamed rice, wheat bread & marg., pineapple chunks, milk

Wed., Jan. 6: Spaghetti & meatballs, tossed salad, French bread, gingerbread, milk

Thurs., Jan. 7: Baked chicken, stuffing, butternut squash, cranberry sauce, wheat bread & marg., apricots, milk

Fri., Jan. 8: Baked cod, boiled parslie potato, green beans, clam chowder, rye bread & marg., banana, milk

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FRIDAY, DEC. 26th.
WE'LL BE TAKING A LITTLE REST



Energy Committee Slates Workshop

By Andi Phelps

Southwick: In keeping with the seasonal spirit of good will toward fellow men, the Energy Resource Committee is planning a workshop on January 9th, offering free energy-saving instructions and ideas. Participating groups will supply insulation kits at no cost to qualified individuals and families.

The workshop will be held at Our Lady of the Lake Church hall from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Representatives from Weatherization Assistance and Resource Management and Northeast Utilities will present various energy conservation techniques. There will also be instructions on installing insulation. The committee hopes to have a demonstration of solar power for home use.

Several families and individuals in town are in need of some type of fuel assistance, according to committeeman Alan Wertkin. He said many people, especially the elderly, are not aware they qualify. He hopes these people will be able to attend the workshop.

Persons not able to attend the workshop but wish additional information are asked to contact Alan Wertkin at 569-5264; Roberta Lent at 569-5949; William Fearn at 569-6013; or Harvey Clark at 569-6818. The group will arrange transportation to the workshop if necessary.

Wertkin said his committee wants to do more than just make suggestions; they want to "show by example, accomplish, rather than just talk," he added.

Besides the workshop the group hopes to work with high school students teaching them energy auditing. Wertkin feels that parents would be more receptive to suggestions from their children than from a town organization.

A primary goal of the Energy Resource Committee is to educate as many persons as possible in the field of energy use and saving.

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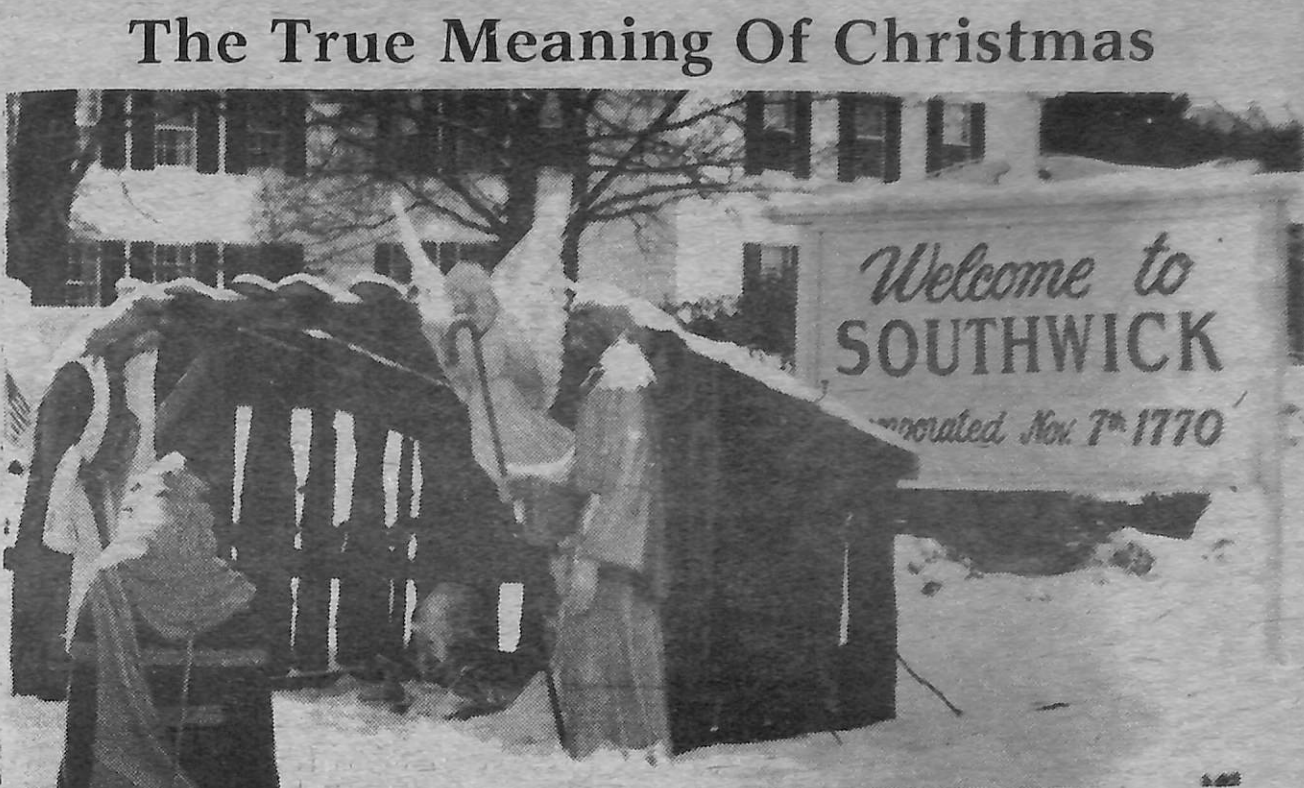
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THIS SCENE OF THE NATIVITY located in Southwick Center reminds us to keep "Christ" in Christmas season celebrating. Advertiser/News photo by Jim Nelson.

What A Dog Wants For Christmas...

With Christmas just around the corner, we are all tempted by cute, cuddly animals looking out from under the Christmas trees awaiting children to scoop them up. Children are always asking Santa Claus for pets, puppies, kittens, birds or fish. In the holiday spirit, we want to grant their wish.

Remember that pet you think is so cute as a baby, is just like a child demanding your time, love and patience. This pet will eventually grow into a large animal.

All animals need constant care and love. Be sure you are ready for this responsibility when you obtain your pet. Don't expect your children to take care of this animal, no matter what they promise. This pet will eventually be yours to care for.

If you decide you want this pet, then you would be wise to get a handbook on the care of your pet. Follow their advice and you should have a happy, healthy pet.

As you think about getting that cute little puppy, please think of this poem written by Edith Lassen Johnson:

"Greetings with Love...from a lonely dog."
I wish someone would tell me what it is that I've done wrong.
Why do I have to stay chained up and be left alone so long?
They seemed so glad to have me when I came here as a pup.
There were so many things we'd do while I was growing up.
The master said he'd train me as a companion and a friend.
The mistress said she'd never fear to be left alone again.
The children said they'd feed me and brush me every day.
They'd play with me and walk me if I would only stay.
But now the master "hasn't time", the mistress says I shed; she doesn't want me in the house, not even to be fed.
The children never walk me. They always say, "not now."
I wish I could please them. Won't someone tell me how?
All I had, you see, was love. I wish they would explain why they said they wanted mine, and then left it on a chain.
May you have a happy holiday, and make it a safe one for your pets by keeping all Christmas decorations and ornaments out of their reach.

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Community Scrapbook

By Claudia Scott



Stephanie Alaimo of Suffield shares her gift of verse in the nicest ways. As a volunteer, she gives hours a week to people in local convalescent homes and elderly housing, conducting poetry readings and sing-alongs of old favorites.

Stephanie, whose book of poems is called *Beloved Treasures*, has always loved poetry from the time she recited Polish verse with her parents, both of whom are from Poland.

Her book is published under the name of Stephanie Balvina Kondel as a tribute to her mother. In the year that have followed publication, she has written hundreds of new poems which are all filled with images of things that we are all often aware of, yet do not take the time to appreciate.

Her poems reflect the varying moods of nature and the beauty of the changing seasons. Stephanie especially loves the springtime when everything is reawakening to life. She also touches on feelings and the problems we must face in our own lives.

A special poem to her is one written for her brother who died in early middle age. Called "My Son," it was written for Stephanie's mother and for all mothers who lose a son.

"It was painful for my mother to read it at first because of her sorrow," Stephanie relates, "however, afterwards, she grew to love it because of the beautiful memories it evokes."

Stephanie jokes that she is beginning to feel like a celebrity because her name is appearing in the local newspapers so often. That is because she is appearing so often at many places, all part of the RSVP program.

The Retired Senior Voluntary Program "gives people an opportunity to retire to something rather than from something." She loves participating in the program because it makes her feel good to have an outlet

to express herself in something worthwhile.

Because the RSVP uses a person where he feels most comfortable, Stephanie reads her poetry, an activity she began a few years ago at the Parkway Pavilion, where her mother resided until her death last year. Stephanie continues to read there as well as at the American Medical Convalescent Home in Hazardville, at St. Joseph's in Enfield, at the Bickford Home in Windsor Locks, and at Maple Court in Suffield under the sponsorship of the library.

This makes for a very busy schedule, which Stephanie loves. The readings are becoming increasingly more popular because everyone who attends can participate. They can listen to a requested poem read by Stephanie or her sister, Ann Pastormerlo, who helps her. They can bring in their favorite poem or recite one they know. They might help add a line to the weekly "group poem" or they all could recite a common poem which is a lot of fun. They also sing and every session ends with "God Be With You Till We Meet Again."

Stephanie is thrilled at the response that her readings have been getting. "I am so pleased that it goes so well." She adds that she is amazed how much people like it, "even those who were not too sure about something like this."

Stephanie believes that our lives would be happier if we were to dwell on the good things that have happened to us. However, because we must also face unpleasantness and sometimes tragedy, "it helps to bear life's darker moments if we pause to remember the lovely things that we have known."

Part of Stephanie's 1981 Christmas poem, *Heart Glow* sums up these feelings:



STEPHANIE ALAIMO of Suffield.

*We emerge from the beauty of Christmas,
To face the genial light...
of a promising New Year.
Our hopes and dreams...
Now imprint a warm glow
In our heart,
As we search for a better
Tomorrow:
That may be free...somehow...
Of pain or sorrow.*



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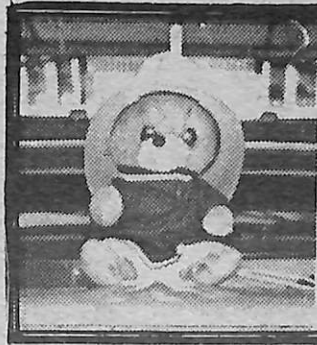
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Views From The Volunteers

By Lt. Ed Pepe
Southwick Fire Dept.

SOUTHWICK: The Southwick Firemen's Association will sponsor a free showing of the Film Communications movie, "Kids Playing With Fire: THE CLARKE FAMILY TRAGEDY" at the Southwick Congregational Church on Tuesday, December 29. The movie begins at 7:30 p.m.

The film's purpose is to enhance fire prevention programs, and to increase parental awareness and education of juvenile firesetters.

The "The Clarke Family Tragedy" is a true case history of the tragic consequences of children playing with fire. TV reporter Mike Botula narrates this hard-hitting account of how a child's natural curiosity can turn into a dangerous - and deadly, game.

Early one Sunday morning, while the rest of their family slept, young Phillip and J.R. Clarke, ages 4 and 6, were playing with fire in a closet. Suddenly, the fire got out of hand. As the flames quickly engulfed their home, J.R., his parents and the infant Keith escaped, but Phillip and three other children died in the blaze.

Why do children become firesetters? How does this problem begin? What can parents do? This film raises these questions and offers positive methods of dealing with the problem of kids playing with fire.

A child's fascination with fire can begin as early as three years of age. Fifty percent of boys under the age of eight play with fire and the consequences can be tragic, as related by the Clarks in this dramatic case history film about their children playing with fire, resulting in the death of four people.

The Southwick Firemen's Association encourages local residents to attend this showing at the Congregational Church. Children must be accompanied by an adult.



Happy Holidays... Christmas Traditions

By Jeanne Hoffmann

FIRST OF ALL, we have to be honest and admit to each other that in spite of all this running around, and in addition to the preparations we have to make, we really do love Christmas.

The spirit of it overwhelms us at unexpected moments, and is best savored with our favorite folks when we get together in friendship and love. Some of our nicest traditions begin in moments like these - such as the hymn "Silent Night".

On Christmas Eve in 1818, a priest named Joseph Mohn was inspired to write the words. He asked his friend, Franz Gruber, the village schoolmaster and church organist, to put them to music. Franz had a problem: the church organ was broken, so he had to compose the melody on his guitar, which he couldn't play very well.

He wrote the most simple tune he could, and the two sang it together at the Christmas Day service. A year later, when the organ was finally being fixed, they played that song to test it, and the repair man was so moved, he asked for a copy to bring to the village choir.

From then on, roving groups of singers discovered and performed the song. But it was 24 years later that it was published and established as a classic hymn for all time.

Another unexpected success was the poem, "The Night Before Christmas." No one was more surprised by its popularity than its author, Clement Moore. He wrote it to share privately with his children one Christmas Eve, and a family friend who was present was so touched by it, she had it published anonymously in a local paper the next Christmas season.

Clement was embarrassed - he was a serious scientist who wished to be remembered for his written works of science, not for "light stuff" such as that, and it was 22 years before he publicly acknowledged having written it.

We can travel far back in time for the origins of

other happy traditions we are sharing this year. For instance, how about Christmas trees? In ancient cultures, the evergreen was worshipped as a symbol of life.

The Druids and Romans in ancient Britain decorated them in honor of their gods. The custom came to America during the Revolutionary War when Hessian soldiers ornamented the trees around their camp fires during the holiday season.

Other ancient evergreen traditions include holly and mistletoe, which were placed around the house to ward off bad weather and evil spirits. One myth about holly to test for fun is to tie a sprig of it around your bedpost to assure yourself of pleasant dreams.

Kissing under the mistletoe dates back to Roman times when enemy soldiers who met under a mistletoe plant stopped fighting and hugged each other in friendship!

CHRISTMAS FOLKS: Santa Claus is a popular and positive spirit of the season. But folklore gives us other to beware of. Have you heard of BELSNICKLE? He accompanies St. Nick in Europe and makes sure that naughty children don't get the best presents. And there is a mean lady named BUZEBERGHT who carries a pot of starch around to smear on those who stay up too late on Christmas Eve.

Then there is BERCHTA - a most unwelcome guest. She watches out for laxity in household duties, and casts bad spells on lazy housewives. She was surely invented by someone who never felt overwhelmed by the drudgery of housekeeping chores - presumably invented by a MAN!

FUN AND GAMES: Here are a few traditional games that haven't gained popularity yet, at least in our neighborhood.

"Blowing in the Yule" is of Scandinavian origin and is based on the premises that noise wards off evil spirits. Musicians take their instruments to the local church belfry and play separate carols in four different directions. When they finish, a joyful ringing of bells announces that Christmas has truly arrived.

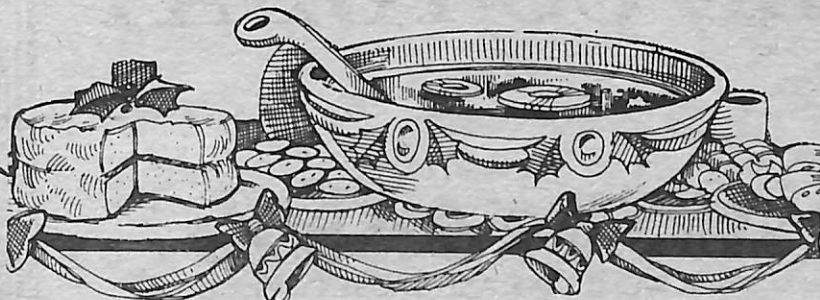
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Christmas Message...

"Warm Fuzzies" To All

What frame of mind do we find ourselves in this holiday season?

Few of us can make our way through December's activities without feeling somewhat hassled, frustrated, and eventually short on time, energy and available funds.

Now that our shopping, wrapping, mailing, cleaning, decorating, and cooking are almost behind us, let's examine how we really feel inside. Is there some unfinished business to attend to here?

If all this rushing about has left us feeling rather empty inside, perhaps we haven't yet given a gift from our hearts: the gift of ourselves.

This gift costs us nothing, requires no gift wrap, no postage stamp and no special ingredients. All it requires is love.

This gift may take the form of a "warm fuzzy," a positive expression which, when given, creates a warm and fuzzy feeling in both donor and recipient.

Are there any warm fuzzies we're holding inside which we could share with others during this special time of year?

We, at the *Southwick Suffield Advertiser/News*, have received many warm fuzzies since our inception four months ago, and we'd like you all to know how very good that has made us feel.

We want to thank each and every one of you and to let you know that you are very important and special to us.

We look forward to serving you even better in the upcoming new year.

Warm fuzzies to all!
Penny Stone
Editor

Firesafe Ideas

By the Suffield
Firemen's Association, Inc.



When the invitation to produce a weekly fire safety column came with the birth of the *Southwick-Suffield Advertiser/News*, the Suffield Firemen's Association Education Committee was overjoyed.

We feel that a public educated in the prevention of fire is a better answer to the nation's fire problem than the suppression of fire and subsequent attempt to salvage what life and property remains. We trust our safety hints over the past months have been beneficial to you, and we look forward to bringing you more in the coming year.

The members of the Suffield Firemen's Association would like to extend the heartiest best wishes to you and your family for a joyous holiday season and a happy, healthy and fire-safe new year.



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us rejoice at Christmastime.

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School News



CHILDREN OF SOUTHWICK TEACHERS enjoy the "First Annual Children's Christmas Party" sponsored by the Southwick Education Association held at the American Legion Post 338 last Saturday. Advertiser/News photo by Jim Nelson.

SEA Sponsors Party For Children

By Candis Bloomrose

Southwick: On Saturday, December 19th, the Southwick Education Association held its first annual Children's Christmas Party for some twenty children. Gary Larese, S.E.A. vice president and chairman of

the event, hired the American Legion Hall, arranged for an entertainment committee, and placed a person-to-person call to Santa Claus at the North Pole to request his appearance.

Karen Lampiasi, wife of music teacher and S.E.A. secretary Jack Lampiasi, provided guitar music as children happily sang Christmas tunes. Games, such as musical chairs and Pin The Nose On Rudolph, were played by excited children waiting for the arrival of Santa. Games were organized by Dori LeBlanc, wife of guidance counselor George LeBlanc.

Book prizes were won by Jamie Larese, who came closest to providing Rudolph with a functional nose, and Jill Connors, who searched out the last seat in musical chairs. After a game of bean bag toss, all children received gayly wrapped popcorn favors for participating.

Children snacked on various holiday goodies provided by families in attendance while Christmas carols mixed with laughter rang out.

At 2:15, small heartbeats quickened as sleigh bells filled the air and Santa's "ho-ho-ho" echoed through the hall. All the children crowded around eagerly awaiting their name to be called as St. Nick passed out gifts.

Michael Cammerota, age 2, was the first recipient and quickly claimed his present. Each child after that never lost interest as wrapping and ribbon were torn away.

Lights from cameras flashed throughout the afternoon as parents captured happy expressions forever. It's difficult to say who enjoyed the festivities more - parents carrying tired children to their cars or the children clinging tightly to their gifts. In either case, the party appeared to be a huge success.

Woodland School Christmas Party



MRS. LENT'S 2nd GRADE CLASS at Woodland School enjoy their classroom Christmas Party and await annual gift exchange. Pictured are, back row: Loren Zink, Shary Cataldo and Todd Shiveley. Middle row: Melinda Traficanti. Front row: David Durfey and Tracy Mead. Advertiser/News photo by Jim Nelson.

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Southwick High Principal Alexander Prew.

Southwick High Chief "Welcomed"

By Claudia Scott

Faculty and students alike enthusiastically welcomed Mr. Alexander Prew, principal of Southwick High School, as he returned to his duties on December 10.

A large sign made by student Elaine Aleckson filled a cafeteria wall to let this well-loved man know how much he had been missed during his absence due to a heart attack suffered in September.

Mrs. Cathy Cox, office staff member, was the spokesperson, saying that it was "great to have him back. We all missed him very much."

Mr. Prew, who is in his 29th year as a principal in Southwick, said that he was glad to be back because "I forget all of my personal problems once I walk through the school door. After you have been at a place so long, it is difficult to be gone from that environment." He added that he enjoys being around the young people. "I missed that," he said.

Mr. Prew said he was pleased by the support received by Paul Meagher, acting principal, and Michael Camerota, acting vice-principal, during his long absence.

The veteran educator wishes to publicly thank everyone who forwarded greeting cards, made telephone calls and visited him while he was at home. "The faculty and students have been wonderful to me and I really appreciate it very much," he related.

We all welcome back Mr. Prew and we wish him a happy and healthy New Year.

School's Out For Christmas



MRS. BRINDLE'S 5th GRADE CLASS at Powder Mill School rejoice last Friday...it's the last day of the 1981 school year for them and it's off to the sleds and skates for the Christmas-New Year's holiday season. Advertiser/News photo by Jim Nelson.

Suffield High "Spirit Week" Success

"Spirit Week" at Suffield High School proved to be a great success. Spirit Week Chairperson Audra Philippon and Student Council President John Cervione, aided by Spirit Committee members - Angela Arnold, Michelle Dion, Carl Casinghino, Rose Cicero, Bret Lynch, Mary Beth Prew, Bill Nadeau, Karen Austin, Jeff Osoweicki, Lewis Anglerois, and David Sisk - put together a spectacular week at Suffield High.

At a Christmas Dance held last Saturday, December 19th, the committee announced that the sophomore class had won the spirit week competition, and class president Debbie Linke accepted the trophy on behalf of her enthusiastic classmates.

School Spirit had begun with a bonfire and pep rally at which individual classes sponsored games and illustrated their school spirit in the form of chants and screams. A greased pole contest was also held. Teams

of four climbed the sixteen-foot pole as fast as possible and the winners were Rob Psholka, Brian McEwan, David Simmons and Tony Gebhart.

Students earned points for their classes throughout the week by dressing in the uniform of the day. On Monday, more than seventy-five percent of the students were "prepped out" for "Preppy Day." The response to "Punk Rock/New Wave Day" on Tuesday was equally as good. "Dress Up Day" followed on Wednesday and "Pajama/T-Shirt Day" on Thursday. On Friday, the school colors were displayed for "Blue and White Day" with tremendous student participation.

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THE HEART TREE at Spaulding School in Suffield as displayed by students Charles J. Hartman and Sarah Birmingham. photo Jim Nelson.

Spaulding School "Heart" Tree

By Connie Davis

Suffield: Spaulding School students and staff recently looked remarkably similar; everyone was wearing a T-shirt which had the school's name on the back and was individually designed on the front.

A project originated by art teacher Linda Cherry, the shirts are worn on designated Spaulding School Spirit Days.

Principal Edwin Humphrey explained that school spirit has resulted in over \$75 being donated to the American Heart Association of Greater Hartford. Humphrey commended students for their spirit of giving, as they made donations to the worthy cause of fighting heart disease in place of the more customary practice of exchanging small gifts with one another.

A beautiful Christmas tree trimmed with colorful, handmade heart-shaped ornaments is visible as one enters Spaulding School. These ornaments were crafted in Ms. Cherry's art classes, and each student who made a donation to the Heart Association hung an ornament on the "heart tree."

Because of Spaulding School's active participation in raising \$75 for the heart association, the school's name is listed on a plaque displayed with a Heart Association Christmas tree at the Wadsworth Athenaeum.



SUFFIELD'S SPECIAL RECREATION CHILDREN enjoy their annual Christmas party held Frankie's Pizza in Enfield. Pictured are, left front: Bonnie Pasco, Genny Cannon, Debbie Bruce and David Buskey. Right front: Tammy Alderman, Steve Casey, Roxanne Bancroft, Doug McVey and Mark Tilstone. Advertiser/News photo by Jim Nelson.

"Special Recreation" Young People Treated To Christmas Party

By Connie Davis

Suffield: Last Saturday, twenty-one "special recreation" young people were given a Christmas party at Frankie's Fire House in Enfield. Co-sponsored by the Suffield Jaycees and the Suffield Recreation Department, the annual event is eagerly anticipated by young and old alike.

Santa Claus, bearing a close resemblance to Jaycee President Bill Steinka, distributed gifts to each individual.

Programs are planned on a year-round basis for these young people who range in age from 6 to 23. Last summer a picnic was held at Wysockis' in West Suffield. In October, twelve of the young people were taken to the Ice Capades at the Hartford Civic Center. In November, they enjoyed the turkey dinner sponsored by the Jaycees, which they topped off with "make your own" sundaes and games at the Recreation Department.

Duckpin bowling will begin in January. Violet Hill, special recreation coordinator, said that a social event is planned once or twice a month. In April, training will start for Special Olympics, which was held at Fairfield University last year.

Ms. Hill mentioned that the special recreation program draws disabled and mentally handicapped young people from a radius of several towns. Photographs on view at the Recreation Department show the enthusiasm and accomplishment of participants at the Special Olympics as well as at other events.

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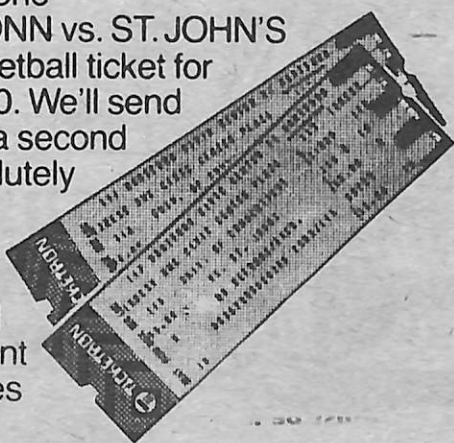
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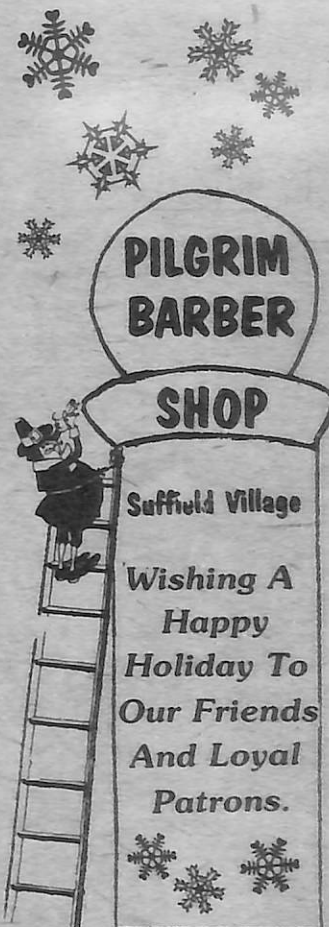
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THE MCALISTER MIDDLE SCHOOL was graced with a window painting by Ruth Potter's eighth grade art class. Advertiser/News photo by Jim Nelson.

Middle School Decorated By Pupils

By Lil Devin

Suffield: Ruth Potter's eighth grade art class at McAlister Middle School has decorated the building's front windows for the holidays in a school tradition that goes back ten years.

This year's theme was the Lion and the Lamb, used by students to symbolize peace. The design was created with newsprint and magic markers for a stained glass effect.

Ms. Potter reports that approximately 48 eighth-graders worked on the design, which has helped to bolster holiday spirits among students and staff at the school once again.

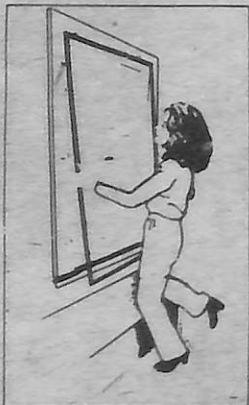
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MISS TRACY KOPE, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Waltrer Kope, 2150 Mountain Road, West Suffield, is congratulated by Dr. David Johnson, Principal of Suffield High School, for being named winner of the annual Bausch & Lomb Science Award. Photo by Suffield High senior David Schulte.



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365 Walnut St. Extension, Agawam, Mass.

SPORTS

Rams Edge EL In Hoop, 43-37

By Chris Hout

"When a team plays as poorly as we did tonight and still wins, you know someone above is watching," Southwick basketball coach Bob Lawless said after his team defeated East Longmeadow Monday night at Southwick High School.

The Rams, who are 2-0 in the E division, committed 26 turnovers in their victory, 20 in a horrendous first half and a livable 6 in the second.

Southwick played without the full-time services of standout 6-3 center Allan Swanson. Swanson, who scored 30 points and grabbed 25 rebounds in Southwick's opening day victory over Mohawk, was nursing a 100 degree temperature at game time. Swanson played 16 minutes, grabbed 5 rebounds and scored 6 points.

"Allan really showed me a lot of character by being here tonight," praised Lawless. "He was very sick all day and I never thought he would even show up, never mind play."

Swanson's replacement, 6-3 Daryl Leville scored 7 clutch points in filling the big void for Southwick. Guards Mike Reed and Todd Typrowicz combined for 17 points and 16 rebounds for the 2-0 Rams. (Reed, 6 points 13 rebounds - Typrowicz, 11 points 3 rebounds).

Reserve guard Jimmy Porter also played a big part in the Ram victory with 5 points, all of them coming in the fourth and final period. John Rapacki and Danny English each had 4 points for the winners.

"I thought the guys off the bench did a real fine job tonight," observed Lawless. "We needed the effort from them to compensate for Swanson and they came through for us."

The Rams jumped to a substantial seven point advantage (10-3) after the first quarter as Typrowicz and Reed sparked the locals.

East Longmeadow stormed back in the second quarter, scoring the first five points of the stanza to outscore Southwick 17-11 and trailed by just one, 21-20 at the half.

"Their half court press was really bothering our guys in the first half. We couldn't get any offense generated at all. But got things ironed out in the locker room and played a much better second half."

The Rams committed only one turnover in the third quarter and led by 31-26 after three periods. The two teams traded points in the final quarter and Southwick came away with the second victory in as many starts.

Southwick Girls Ride With Florek

By Chris Hout

The Southwick girls hoop team, riding on the 13 point, 10 rebound performance of guard Kim Florek, turned back Palmer High 44-35 Monday at Southwick High School.

The Rams are now 3-0 following victories over Mohawk and Smith Academy and their latest victim from Palmer.

Complementing Florek's performance were Karen Schulz, 10 points; Jesse Hansen, 6 points and three rebounds; Cindy Lapan, 7 points and Avola Brown with 4 points.

"I am very pleased with the effort of all the girls today," said Southwick coach Jim Vincent. "We played an excellent first half. I thought Florek really took control out there."

After a scoreless 2:44 of the initial quarter, Southwick got on the board by virtue of a Karen Schulz field goal. The Rams pushed their first quarter lead to 8-1 before settling for an 8-5 lead after one period.

In the second quarter, Florek pumped in 5 points, while Brown, Schulz, Lapan and Allison Hiers each added a bucket taking the Rams into the locker room up by five, 21-16.

Southwick extended its lead to seven points in the third quarter as Hansen and Schulz teamed up for eight points (4 each) and Florek added to her game high total with three more. The Rams led 32-25 going into the final eight minutes.

In the fourth quarter, Florek again paved the way with four points and clutch rebounding and Schulz, Brown, Lapan and Kim Hepburn stymied the Palmer attack with field goals of their own for the 3-0 winners.

"I think we got a little tired in the second half," said Vincent. "We got a little sloppy but overall I am pleased with the victory," noted Vincent. "I think their defense gave some of my girls fits out there and could be the reason why we looked unorganized at times."

(121). Brian Labombard (128) AND Jeff Hale proceeded to lose in Southwick's next 3 matches. Deray and Hale were each pinned.

Ronnie Crosler (140) brought life to the Southwick side as he pinned his man at 25 seconds of the first period. That life however, was premature.

Southwick's Dan Cook (147) was defeated 12-9 and Doug Hale (157) was pinned in the match to follow as Southwick found themselves on the short end of a 25-21 score.

The Rams regained the lead in the next match as their iron-man Leavitt pinned his opponent at 1:32 of the first period in the 169-pound bracket. Both teams forfeited the 187-pound class, leading up to the dramatic finish.

Grapplers Dropped By Amherst

By Chris Hout

The Southwick High wrestling team, who were buried in their seasonal opener against league power Classical, lost a tight 31-27 decision to Amherst Saturday at Southwick High School.

The Rams sensed victory and lead 27-25 going into the final "heavy weight" match. But Southwick's Kevin Grezebin could not elude Amherst's 260 pound behemoth wrestler and was pinned for the points needed by the Hurricanes to gain the visitors a dramatic victory.

Southwick's record dropped to 0-2 while Amherst evened its slate at 1-1.

The Rams opened the meet winning by decision as Amherst could not field a 100-pounder. Credit Southwick's Richard Sandman with the victory.

Southwick's Donnie Flynn decisioned Amherst's 107-pounder, 14-7 and Dick Tingley at 114 pounds won by forfeit as the Rams were off to a flying start.

The roof caved in on Southwick as Dave Deray



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